

MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA
FEBRUARY 24, 2014

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the second meeting of the City Council of the City of La Crescent for the month of February was called to order by Mayor Mike Poellinger at 5:30 PM in the La Crescent City Hall, La Crescent, Minnesota, on Monday, February 24, 2014, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon a roll call taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following members were present: Members Bernie Buehler, Greg Husmann, Dale Williams, and Mayor Mike Poellinger. Members absent: John Graf, excused. Also present was City Administrator Bill Waller and City Attorney Skip Wieser.

Mayor Poellinger asked if anyone wished to take action to change the agenda as presented. Member Buehler requested to move item 3.16 – Train Whistle Blowing to item 3.25.

ITEM 1 – CONSENT AGENDA

At this time, the Mayor read the following items to be considered as part of the Consent Agenda for this regular meeting:

- 1.1 MINUTES – FEBRUARY 6, 2014
- 1.2 MINUTES – FEBRUARY 10, 2014
- 1.3 BILLS PAYABLE THROUGH FEBRUARY 20, 2014

At the conclusion of the reading of the Consent Agenda, Mayor Poellinger asked if the Council wished to have any of the items removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion. Member Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.1 – RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT DONATION

Council reviewed correspondence from Karla Stacey and Louise Donohue regarding a \$5,000.00 donation in honor of their parents, Karl and Florence Rauk, to the La Crescent Fire Department for the purchase of CPR training equipment and AED equipment. Following discussion, Member Husmann introduced the following resolution and moved its passage and adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 02-14-07

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATION IN HONOR OF
KARL RAUK AND FLORENCE THOMAS RAUK**

WHEREAS, the family of Karl Rauk and Florence Thomas Rauk wish to donate \$5,000.00 to the La Crescent Fire Department for the purchase of CPR training equipment and AED equipment.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of La Crescent hereby approves the donation in honor of Karl Rauk and Florence Thomas Rauk in the amount of \$5,000.00.

ADOPTED this 24th day of February, 2014.

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator

The foregoing motion was duly seconded by Member Buehler and upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried and the resolution duly passed and adopted.

ITEM 3.2 – TRI-COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS SPRING MEETING

La Crescent Fire Chief, John Meyer, made a request to Council to host the Tri-County Firefighters Association spring meeting at the La Crescent Firehouse and to approve a one day “on-sale 3.2” liquor license application for the event. Following discussion, Member Husmann made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO USE THE LA CRESCENT FIREHOUSE TO HOST THE TRI-COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION SPRING MEETING AND TO APPROVE A ONE DAY “ON-SALE 3.2” LIQUOR LICENSE.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.25 – TRAIN WHISTLE BLOWING

Racheal Decker, who resides on Juniper Street in La Crescent, requested Council to review the train whistle blowing in the City of La Crescent. Following discussion, it was the consensus of Council to have this request referred to the City Attorney for review.

ITEM 3.3 – MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY AGREEMENTS – TOM FAELLA

Tom Faella, Executive Director of the La Crosse Area Planning Commission, reviewed with Council a municipal boundary agreement. This was for informational purposes only. No action taken.

ITEM 3.4 – AVERY’S WISH 2014 RUN/WALK

City Council reviewed a request to conduct the 3rd Annual Avery’s Wish 5K Run/Walk/Roll and events on May 17, 2014. The event is in memory of Avery Valentine and is held to help provided help to those families who cannot afford diabetic supplies for their children as well as travel accommodations for families that need to travel. The Run/Walk/Roll would go through various streets on the north side of town with the event starting and finishing at Old Hickory Park. The race starts at noon and would take 1-2 hours to complete. Following discussion, Member Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Husmann, as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO CONDUCT THE 3RD ANNUAL 5K RUN/WALK/ROLL AND EVENTS ON MAY 17, 2014 CALLED “AVERY’S WISH” FOR JUVENILE DIABETES IN MEMORY OF AVERY VALENTINE THROUGH VARIOUS STREETS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE CITY WITH THE EVENT STARTING AND FINISHING AT OLD HICKORY PARK.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.5 – LANCER YOUTH HOCKEY

City Administrator Waller gave an overview to Council regarding a proposal with Lancer Youth Hockey regarding the local ice arena. The proposal included the following:

1. There is currently \$320,000 in outstanding principal on the ice arena bonds. The bonds are now callable, which means the City can pay off the balance of the bond. It is proposed that on January 1, 2014, the City pay \$160,000 towards the bond principal and that Lancer Youth Hockey pay \$160,000 towards the bond principal. This would eliminate the debt service, and future principal and interest payments.

2. That the City Council authorize the City Attorney to prepare a 10 year agreement between the City and Lancer Youth Hockey which would allow Lancer Youth Hockey to continue to operate the Community Ice Arena facility.

3. That the City Council agree to designate funds to the establishment of a building reserve account and to reduce the negative fund balance that currently exists.

It was recommended to Council to approve in concept this proposal and authorize the City Attorney to prepare an agreement to be presented a future meeting. Following discussion, Member Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Husmann, as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE IN CONCEPT THE PRESENTED PROPOSAL AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY ATTORNEY TO PREPARE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT AND LANCER YOUTH HOCKEY SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF COUNCIL AT A FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.6 – REVISED PARKING ORDINANCE

La Crescent Police Chief Todd Nelson gave an overview to Council of recommendations from a committee organized to review parking in the area of the La Crescent Elementary School. A number of the changes would conflict with current parking ordinances. The committee is asking the Council to have the City Engineer review the changes to the parking on Oak Street and South 4th Street. Following discussion, Member Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

MOTION TO REFER THE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CHANGES IN THE PARKING ON OAK STREET AND SOUTH 4TH STREET.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.7 – AUTHORIZE CAPITAL EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION

Council reviewed a request from Sgt. Doug Stavenau of the La Crescent Police Department to proceed with the purchase of an all-wheel drive 2014 Dodge Charger for a total cost of \$31,592.79 from the State bid. This total cost includes the removal and installation of specific squad equipment such as digital camera, gun locks, siren box and emergency lighting switches from the old squad to the new vehicle. The budgeted funds to purchase the vehicle would be used out of the 2013 Capital Equipment Certificate. The purchase of the 2014 vehicle will replace the 2010 Dodge Charger currently in use. Following discussion, Member Husmann made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CAPITAL EQUIPMENT EXPENDITURE FOR AN ALL-WHEEL DRIVE 2014 DODGE CHARGER FROM THE STATE BID FOR A TOTAL COST OF \$31,592.79 FOR THE LA CRESCENT POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.8 – EAB REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

City Administrator Waller gave an overview to Council regarding the three proposals for the ash tree removal project. The City has received a \$50,000 grant from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the removal of ash trees. Based on this dollar amount, and stating with the largest diameter ash trees first, the City would be able to remove the following number of trees based on the three proposals: Todays Tree Service – 200 ash trees; Krumrie Tree Service – 102 ash trees; and Johnson Operating Services – 56 ash trees. It should be noted that the Krumrie Tree Service proposal included an additional charge of \$2.30 per inch to grind stump, clean-up, and haul dirt in. The RFP required that this cost be included in the cost of removing and disposing of the ash trees. Based on this information, it was recommended that the Council accept the proposal submitted by Todays Tree Service. Following discussion, Member Husmann made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FROM TODAYS TREE SERVICE FOR THE ASH TREE REMOVAL PROJECT.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.9 – USE OF BOND PROCEEDS - TENNIS COURTS

Attorney Wieser reviewed with Council the use of bond proceeds for tennis courts. This item was informational. No action taken.

ITEM 3.10 – ENGINEERING AGREEMENT – 2015 STREET PROJECT

City Administrator Waller gave an overview of the professional services agreement for engineering services related to the 2015 street/utility reconstruction project. This project includes Oak Street, between South 14th Street and South 6th Street. There are funds in the 2014 general fund budget for this expenditure. As part of the agreement, WHKS will prepare up to six layouts for potential sidewalks, roadways, parking and bike lane configurations. The scope of the project will be expanded to include concept landscape plans. These plans will then be presented at a public meeting with residents of the area, along with at a City Council meeting. It is anticipated that these meetings will be conducted in July of 2014. The majority of the work included in this agreement will have application to the development of plans and specifications for the improvement project. Following discussion, Member Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT AND WHKS & CO. FOR THE PROJECT DESCRIBED AS 2015 OAK STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.11 –SOUTH 14TH STREET FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST

Council reviewed the final payment request to Zenke Inc. in the amount of \$26,722.94 for the South 14th Street improvement project, which was the 2013 street improvement project. The costs associated with this improvement project have been funded utilizing Municipal State Aid funds. It was recommended by the City Engineer to accept the project and make final payment. This approval will then start the two year warranty period. Following discussion, Member Husmann made a motion, seconded by Member Buehler, as follows:

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PROJECT AND TO APPROVE THE FINAL PAYMENT TO ZENKE INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,722.94 FOR THE SOUTH 14TH STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.12 – REVISED ENGINEERING ESTIMATE

City Administrator Waller reviewed with Council a revised engineering estimate to extend City services to a portion of the Crescent Valley area. This was originally presented to the City Council, and included costs to extend City services to the three homes on Kinder Road. The estimated cost for City water and sewer, including service to Kinder Road, was approximately \$34,000 per parcel. This engineering estimate has been revised to exclude the three homes on Kinder Road, and the estimated cost is reduced to \$23,700 per parcel for City water and sewer. It was recommended to Council to agree to forward this revised cost estimate to property owners on Crescent Avenue. The costs have been allocated to 14 properties, although one of those 14 has already obtained City sewer as part of the original improvement project. Following discussion, Member Husmann made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE REVISED ENGINEERING ESTIMATE TO PROPERTY OWNERS ON CRESCENT AVENUE FOR EXTENDING CITY SERVICES FOR CITY WATER AND SEWER.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.13 – PERSONNEL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Council reviewed a recommendation from the Personnel Committee that the probationary status be removed on February 26, 2014 for Elliott Wieser and he be designated as the Assistant Utility Maintenance Supervisor. As of this date he will have satisfactorily completed his probationary status. Following discussion, Member Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROBATIONARY STATUS BE REMOVED ON FEBRUARY 26, 2014 FOR ELLIOTT WIESER AND MR. WIESER BE DESIGNATED AS THE ASSISTANT UTILITY MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR FOR THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

Council also reviewed a recommendation from the Personnel Committee that due to the retirement of Cheryl Kloss that they authorize the position of Golf Course Clubhouse Manager be advertised. Pursuant to the terms of the union contract, the position would be advertised externally at the same time that it was posted internally. Following discussion, Member Husmann made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE POSITION OF GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE MANAGER BE ADVERTISED EXTERNALLY AS THE SAME TIME AS POSTED INTERNALLY PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF THE UNION CONTRACT.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.14 – ONE DAY ON SALE 3.2 LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION

Council reviewed a one day “on sale 3.2” liquor license application from the 3 River Throwdown V, Ironworks Training Center for the event they will be sponsoring at the La Crescent Community Arena on April 14, 2014. It was recommended to Council to approve with the City of La Crescent being named as additional insured on their insurance. Following discussion, Member Husmann made a motion, seconded by Member Buehler, as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE A ONE DAY “ON SALE 3.2” LIQUOR LICENSE TO 3 RIVER THROWDOWN V, IRONWORKS TRAINING CENTER FOR THE EVENT THEY WILL BE SPONSORING AT THE LA CRESCENT COMMUNITY ARENA ON APRIL 14, 2014 WITH THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT BEING NAMED AS ADDITIONAL INSURED ON THEIR INSURANCE

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.15 – MONTE CARLO ROAD

City Attorney Wieser informed Council of recent communications from the owner of Monte Carlo Road indicating his willingness to sell. A Purchase Agreement will be presented at a future Council meeting. Following discussion, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member Husmann, as follows:

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY ATTORNEY AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO NEGOTIATE A PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF MONTE CARLO ROAD SUBJECT TO CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.16 – TRAIN WHISTLE BLOWING – Heard Earlier in the Meeting as 3.25

ITEM 3.17 – USE OF VETERANS PARK – YOGA CLASSES

Council reviewed a request from Christina Farrell of Simple Pleasures Yoga & Massage for a group of yoga instructors to offer free yoga classes in Veteran's Park. The classes would be free to the general public and would start the first Saturday in June through the last Saturday in August. The instructors would be volunteering their time. Following discussion, Member Husmann made a motion, seconded by Member Buehler, as follows:

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE FREE YOGA CLASSES TO BE HELD IN VETERAN'S PARK BEGINNING THE FIRST SATURDAY IN JUNE AND ENDING THE LAST SATURDAY IN AUGUST.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 7.1 – CORRESPONDENCE – MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Council reviewed the February 20, 2014 correspondence from Minnesota Pollution Control Agency regarding the issuance of coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/State Disposal System

(NPDES/DSS) General Permit MNR0400000 for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems for the City of La Crescent MS4. No action taken.

ITEM 7.2 – CORRESPONDENCE – CREST PRECAST INC.

Council reviewed the February 20, 2014 correspondence to both the City and the La Crescent School District from Crest Precast Inc. regarding planning for future development of Abnet Field and related discussions on filling in the drainage ditch located at 14th and Cedar. No action taken.

ITEM 8 – CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Chamber of Commerce gave an update on their annual meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Member Husmann made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried and the meeting duly adjourned at 6:17 PM.

APPROVAL DATE: _____

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator